

Beyond Clun Run 26th June 2016

Turning up early to get organised for the run I was met by 32 bikers all raring to go – they were all modern sports bikes and they were off to Boston for the day and couldn't be persuaded to join us on our jaunt into the Shropshire Hills! Fortunately some of our members soon turned up, plus a visitor who brought along a beautiful Scott for us to drool over (below).



Eventually 14 hardy souls started the first stage of their challenging trip in dry sunny conditions and with thoughts of our first coffee and cake stop at Hopesay, where Martyn Round (right) tackled a piece of cake that appeared to be as big as his face to the astonishment of Alan Bromwich (left), who had clearly never seen anything like it!



We had managed to lose Bill Harley on the way, succumbing to problems with his tool box lid which departed down the road without him. Many of us know that Bill doesn't hang about on workshop jobs, so it will be no surprise that within 24 hours the offending lid had been straightened, welded, filled, prepared and was in primer awaiting a top coat of paint!

Despite much goading our resident pianist could not be persuaded to play for us as he had done last year. Maybe he's like Cliff Richard at Wimbledon and will only perform when necessary to raise spirits on a wet day. We welcomed some additional riders from the



Shropshire and Worcester Sections including Bill Orchard on his 1927 Sunbeam Model 6 (left).

Many of the lanes we chose were 'interesting' and made more so by all the rain we had been enjoying over the past few weeks with the result that there were lots of wet puddles, gravel and mud to contend with. Sadly one of our riders had an incident on a very muddy hairpin bend and again going through the ford at Clun – he

was riding a modern Adventure bike. Apparently it was not as suited to adventures as he had hoped, I hope you are off the crutches soon Roger. Many riders avoided the ford and picked up the route through Clun to our lunch stop at Newcastle on Clun where the traditional rain began to fall. Along the way the impression had been gained that there were several Ian Harris' in the area. He would appear from a different direction and follow along with other riders, become detached and then appear again from a different road. Ian knows the area so well that he was probably following his nose to where he thought we were going rather than sticking rigidly to the route sheet.

After lunch a much reduced team continued beyond Clun into the hills through Leintwardine and ended for our final stop at Brimfield, decidedly moist and a little weary. This is one of Brian and my favourite parts of Shropshire with amazing open views across rolling verdant fields and moors with twisty challenging lanes and dark ancient woods. Thank to those who joined us and we hope you were persuaded to explore further this stunning part of the world.



Stuart Munroe